

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ARA-14 EA-12
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1833
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4187

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: PRESS ACCOUNT OF SAG ON WALVIS RESOLUTION

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY HELEN ZILLE APPEARED IN THE RAND DAILY MAIL
TODAY, JULY 24:

BEGIN TEXT:

SA ULTIMATUM ON WALVIS BAY PLAN

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SOUTH AFRICA LAST NIGHT ISSUED AN ULTIMATUM TO THE
"BIG FIVE" WESTERN POWERS THREATENING TO BREAK OFF
DISCUSSIONS ON SOUTH WEST AFRICA'S INDEPENDENCE IF THE
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED A PROPOSAL PLEDGING
SUPPORT FOR THE INCLUSION OF WALVIS BAY IN THE TERRITORY.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. PIK BOTHA, PASSED

ON THE MESSAGE PERSONALLY AT AN HOUR-LONG MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADORS OF THE FIVE WESTER POWERS AT HIS PRETORIA HOME.

THIS WAS LEARNED FROM RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCES FOLLOWING A SERIES OF EMERGENCY MEETINGS BETWEEN MR. BOTHA, THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. VORSTER, AND OTHER TOP ADVISERS.

MR BOTHA REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE MATTER, BUT LATE LAST NIGHT INFORMED SOURCES SAID THE CRISIS--WHICH THREATENS TO TORPEDO THE TERRITORY'S PROGRESS TO INDEPENDENCE--HAD ARISEN OVER THE WORDING OF A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION SCHEDULED FOR THIS WEEK'S DEBATE. THE RESOLUTION PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR SWAPO'S DEMAND THAT THE STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT PORT BE "RE-INTEGRATED" IN THE INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA.

SOUTH AFRICA'S FINAL DECISION ON WHETHER TO REMAIN A PARTY TO THE WESTERN POWERS' PLAN FOR SWA INDEPENDENCE IS EXPECTED LATER TODAY, PENDING THE REACTION OF THE WEST TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN ULTIMATUM.

NONEOF THE WESTERN AMBASSADORS COULD BE CONTACTED FOR COMMENT LAST NIGHT.

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THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL'S PROPOSED RESOLUTION IS CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO BE A BLATANT CONTRADICTION OF A CATEGORIC ASSURANCE GIVEN IN WRITING BY THE WESTERN FIVE THAT THE WALVIS BAY ISSUED WOULD NOT BE RAISED BEFORE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE TERRITORY.

THE GOVERNMENT AGREED TO NEGOTIATE ON THE FUTURE OF THE PORT WITH AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIAN GOVERNMENT.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ACCEPTS THAT THE PORT IS PART OF SWA AND INTRODUCES THE POSSIBILITY OF SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE RESOLUTION.

THE PRESENT CRISIS, WHICH IS ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS IN THE TERRITORY'S OBSTACLE-RIDDEN PATH TO INDEPENDENCE, FOLLOWS LAST YEAR'S WARNING BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. VORSTER, THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BREAK OFF DISCUSSIONS ON THE TERRITORY IF THE SECURITY COUNCIL DISPUTED SOUTH AFRICA'S OWNERSHIP OF WALVIS BAY.

IF SOUTH AFRICA DECIDES TO GO IT ALONE WITH
AN INTERNAL INDEPENDENCE AGREEMENT, SWA SOULD FORFEIT
AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED INDEPENDENCE AND SOUTH
AFRICA WOULD FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF SANCTIONS.

THE WARNING ISSUED TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE BIG FIVE POWERS YESTERDAY AVERTED AN OUTRIGHT
BREAK IN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TERRITORY.

THE PROPOSED SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION--OBTAINED
FROM SOURCES IN NEW YORK LAST NIGHT--DECLARES:

--THAT THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND UNITY OF
NAMIBIA MUST BE ASSURED THROUGH RE-INTEGRATION OF
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WALVIS BAY WITHIN ITS TERRITORY.

-- THAT IT WILL LEND ITS FULL SUPPORT TO THE
INITIATION OF STEPS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE EARLY RE-
INTEGRATION OF WALVIS BAY INTO NAMIBIA.

-- THAT PENDING THE ATTAINMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE
SOUTH AFRICA MUST NOT USE WALVIS BAY IN ANY MANNER
PREJUDICIAL TO THE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA OR THE
VIABILITY OF ITS ECONOMY, AND,

-- THAT IT WILL PURSUE THE MATTER UNTIL WALVIS
BAY IS FULLY INTEGRATED INTO NAMIBIA. END TEXT.
EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

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